

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 20 - 22, and 24 - 26 have been amended. Claims 4, 6, 10, 11, and 18 were previously canceled. Accordingly, claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 9, 12 - 17, and 19 - 29 are currently pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and reexamination in view of the following remarks.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to because the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer accepts hand drawings; the drawings were objected to because they fail to show S9, S10, and S11 on page 16 as described in the specification; claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 9, 12 - 17, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,732,278 to Baird, III et al.; and claims 20 - 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baird, III et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0104006 to Boate et al.

By this Amendment, claims 1 - 3, 5, 7, 12, 13, 20 - 22, and 24 - 26 are amended and the prior art rejection is traversed. Support for the amendments to independent claims 1, 12, and 20 can be found for example on at least pages 12 and 13 of the specification. Further amendments have been made to the claims to remove the terminology "steps." Arguments in support thereof are provided.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments introduce no new matter within the meaning of 37 U.S.C. § 132.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings for being hand drawn and because some of the reference numbers are not shown.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

With this Amendment, Applicant has submitted amended formal drawings showing reference numbers S9 - S17 in Figure 6 in correspondence with the specification. Applicant submits that the drawings now comply with 37 CFR 1.121(d), 37 CFR 1.84(c), 37 CFR 1.83(a), and 37 CFR 1.84(c). Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 3, 5, 7 - 9, 12 - 17, and 19 as being anticipated by Baird, III et al.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The test for anticipation under section 102 is whether each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); MPEP §2131. The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989); MPEP §2131. The elements must also be arranged as required by the claim. *In re Bond*, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

It is respectfully submitted that the reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element as set forth in the independent claims.

The visitor management system of the present invention integrates physical asset security and information asset security in an integrated form that is seamless to the user. The system makes access decisions in accordance with learned usage patterns of asset users. Further, the present invention provides a centrally managed system and method for verifying the authenticity of user credentials, and integrates the verification process with employee and visitor systems for physical security and online security. See Summary of the Invention.

Baird, III et al. discloses an apparatus and method for authenticating access to a network resource. Access to the device is gained through an authentication process during which a user password and biometrics are provided to the device. Once authenticated, the device authorizes access to a remote site. See abstract. A document is digitally signed by the trusted device 101 and the user views the document prior to signature on the device 101. See column 16, lines 39-60.

Independent claims 1 and 12 now recite features regarding “triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit through a door of a building” and “transmitting a breach of information asset protection by denying access to the physical asset.”

In contrast, there is no discussion anywhere in Baird, III et al. of providing physical asset protection, where the physical access is entry or exit to a door of a building. Instead, according to the Examiner, in Baird, III et al., physical access is granted by viewing the document and digitally signing the document on the trusted device 101 rather than viewing it on a computer 103.

Therefore, Baird, III et al. fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the independent claims, namely, triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit through a door of a building.

As the Baird, III et al reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element of the independent claims, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims are allowable over the reference.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn.

Further, as claims 2, 3, 5, 7 - 9, 13 - 17, and 19 are dependent on one of independent claims, Applicant submit that these claims are also allowable at least for the same reasons as discussed above.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claim 20 -29 as being unpatentable over Baird, III et al. in view of Boate et al.

Response

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the Examiner must establish: (1) that some suggestion or motivation to modify the references exists; (2) a reasonable expectation of success; and (3) that the prior art references teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Amgen, Inc. v. Chugai Pharm. Co., 18 USPQ2d 1016, 1023 (Fed. Cir. 1991); In re Fine, 5 USPQ2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Wilson, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970).

It is respectfully submitted that the combination of references fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

On page 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Baird, III et al. does not expressly teach transmitting and receiving first and second signals to a hosted environment. The Examiner cites Boate et al. in an attempt to cure the deficiencies of Baird, III et al.

Independent claim 20 now recites features regarding "triggering a user status change upon valid entry or exit through a door of a building."

Boate et al. teaches a method and system for securing a computer network and personal identification device used therein for controlling access to network components.

Nowhere in Boate et al. is there a discussion of controlling entry or exit through a door of a building. Instead, Boate et al. merely provides authenticated digital signatures which are used for establishing secure access to data stored on a network and for performing secure transactions over a network. See paragraph [0011].

As claims 21 - 29 are dependent on independent claim 20, which is believed to be allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 20.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants

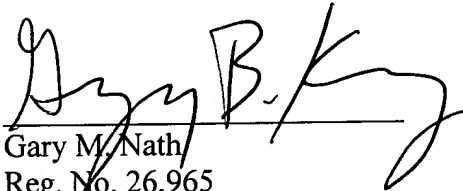
respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application. Favorable action with an early allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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